

*July, 1887*

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From S. Paul's Mission back to Lytton, to take train for Yale. Where I arrived on the morning of Wednesday the 13th.

The most deeply interesting part of my work soon after my arrival, was the examination of the girls' school carried on by the Sisters of All Hallows, in the old parsonage house, to which has been tacked on the hospital built when the C. P. R. was in course of construction.

No words of mine can express the intense interest attached to this work. I could speak of the careful and successful teaching; of the readiness and accuracy with which my questions were almost invariably answered; of the quickness of apprehension and the clear understanding of the subjects treated of in the examination; but what are all these compared with the conviction that could not but come home to my own heart, of the love, the trust, the patience of the Sisters; so devoted to their work, so fully answered by love and trust and quiet gentle obedience on the part of the children under their care.

The examination occupied the greater part of two days, the subjects of examination being the Catechism, a selected portion of the Old Testament (from the Call of Abraham to the last of the ten plagues), The Ministry of Our Lord, Grammar, History, Geography, Arithmetic, Reading, Dictation, Analysis, Parsing, Recitation, &c. I began my examination by a strict adherence to the text books given me by the Sister Superior, but I soon laid these aside and took up the examination just as I should do in any school which I might be called on to examine, and I was more surprised and gratified than I can say when I found the intelligent, ready, quick answers. The children themselves seemed to brighten up and look pleased when I laid aside the books and appealed to their intelligence rather than to their memories.

The afternoon of the second day, when several visitors were present, was given to singing, recitations, &c., and the specially pleasant task of giving prizes and rewards, which were so really merited.

In addition to their regular work in the education of Indian and half-breed girls, one of the Sisters has, at the urgent request of some of the residents in Yale, undertaken the charge of a few of their children, who come daily to school. and I know I do but express the feelings of the parents when I say that they are more than satisfied with the progress their children have made, not only in general knowledge, but also in the increased gentleness of demeanour and quietness of manner we all love to see so much in our daughters.

CHARLES T. WOODS,  
Archdeacon of Columbia.